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DEPT FOR STAS, OES, AND EAP
DEPT PASS TO OSTP JASON RAO
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TOKYO FOR NASA JUSTIN TILLMAN
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SUBJECT: NASA ADVANCES SCIENCE ENGAGEMENT IN INDONESIA

¶1. (SBU) Summary: NASA Assistant Administrator Michael O'Brien advanced President Obama's science engagement efforts in Indonesia February 2-3. He discussed cooperative partnership opportunities on space and Earth science and education with representatives from the Ministry of Research and Technology (MRT), National Institute of Aeronautics and Space (LAPAN), the Habibie Center, the Indonesian Academy of Sciences, relevant research agencies, and university representatives. MRT identified a POC for future cooperation with NASA and provided guidance that discussions on potential projects need not wait until the Science and Technology Agreement currently being negotiated is signed. LAPAN noted that it would prioritize cooperation with NASA in the area of space science application such as remote sensing on carbon emissions. End Summary.

NASA Outreach Advances Obama's Cairo Vision

¶2. (SBU) O'Brien explained to all Indonesian counterparts NASA's current outreach effort is part of President Obama's science engagement through the Cairo Vision. He outlined NASA's specific vision of cooperation with new potential partners such as Indonesia. NASA aims to increase cooperation with Indonesia through joint-efforts in its science mission directorate and invites Indonesia to initiate ideas. O'Brien provided several examples of current NASA cooperative programs: participation in the research of the International Space Station, GLOBE education program, AERONET, SERVIR, and other earth science applications, noting that any specific cooperative programs are subject to international agreements coordinated through the inter-agency process. (Note: Currently, NASA has one formal agreement in place with Indonesia's Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT) for cooperation in the AERONET program. Program activities had lapsed, and O'Brien discussed separately with the Deputy Chairman of BPPT how to revive the activity.) He explained that NASA focuses on government-to-government partnerships, with no exchange of funds that operate under a binding agreement. Further, Mr. O'Brien explained that cooperation must be mutually beneficial to both the U.S. government and the government of Indonesia.

MRT Appoints POC for Future Cooperation

¶3. (SBU) The Ministry of Research and Technology (MRT), Indonesia's science coordinator, organized a meeting with a broad set of

research agencies related to space science. Agencies represented included: National Institute of Aeronautics and Space (LAPAN), Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT), the Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG), Survey and Mapping Agency (BAKOSURTANAL), Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (KEMLU), Bandung Institute of Technology, and Gadjah Mada University. All institutions welcomed cooperation with NASA, specifically the use of NASA Earth science and observation technology, to augment monitoring capabilities in the areas of climate change, food security, environmental enforcement, disasters and weather monitoring capability. For the next steps, MRT Deputy Minister Teguh Rahardjo appointed Director for International Cooperation Nada Marsudi as the central point of contact for relevant agencies to put forth ideas for cooperation with NASA that were tangible and realistic for both parties. He also noted that discussions and preparation for cooperative activities need not wait for what he expected would be a signing of the U.S.-Indonesia Science and Technology Agreement in March.

LAPAN Prioritizes Space Science Application

14. (SBU) LAPAN Chairman Dr. Adi Sadewo Salatun hosted a lunch and discussion meeting for the NASA delegation, including visual presentations of imagery taken by Indonesia's current satellites. LAPAN reports directly to the president and its mission is to enhance Indonesia's capabilities in the areas of space technology, space science, and remote sensing in facilities across the archipelago. LAPAN emphasized it has limited capability because of a relatively small operational budget of \$20 million. LAPAN was enthusiastic but realistic about cooperation with NASA, emphasizing that cooperation in remote sensing data would likely offer the greatest benefit to both the US and Indonesia. Salatun was articulate on the need for Indonesia to establish the ability to provide Measurable, Verifiable, and Reportable (MRV) emissions reductions for future carbon market and compensation schemes under climate mitigation. Overall the meeting was productive for both NASA and LAPAN and provided a framework for initiating tangible cooperation in the near-term through LAPAN-generated ideas on specific areas of cooperation. Other participants from LAPAN included Primary Secretary Dr. Bambang Kusumanto, Deputy Chairman for Space Technology, Dr. Soewarto Hardhienata, Deputy Chairman for Space and Science Assessment and Information, Mr. Bambang Setiawan Tedjasukmana, and Deputy Chairman for Remote Sensing, Mr. Nurhidayat.

15. (SBU) O'Brien also met with a small group of scientists to talk broadly about Indonesia's scientific development history. Those in attendance included Secretary General of the Indonesian Academy of Sciences, Dr. Budhi M. Suyitno, Deputy Chairman of the Habibie Center's science wing Mr. Agung Nugroho, and Indonesian Astronaut Dr. Pratiwi Sudarmono.

16. (SBU) Assistant Administrator O'Brien's delegation cleared this message.

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